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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Koji ASAHI

Confirmation No. 6456

Serial No. 09/803,095

Group 2872

Filed March 12, 2001

OPTICAL CROSS-CONNECT APPARATUS, AND ITS SIGNAL MONITORING METHOD

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed sheet.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in the corresponding Japanese Application Serial No. 2000-069099 filed March 13, 2000. A copy of the Japanese Official Action in which they were cited is attached hereto, with what is believed to be the pertinent portion enclosed in a wavy line. An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

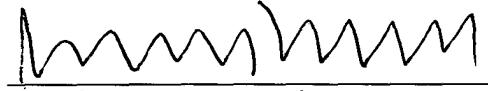
S.N. 09/803,095

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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